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OPINION

EASTER TRADITION

ON EASTER SUNDAY, thousands of people will attend ceremonies all over Ireland to remember with pride those who died at Easter 1916, and down all the years since, in the struggle to free our country.

They will attend one or more of the ceremonies listed on this page which have been arranged, as always, by the successors of those 1916 heroes — the Republican Movement.

There will also be a very few half-hearted Free State ceremonies, attended by a handful of shame-faced politicians who will, as ever, spew out their revised version of history and denigrate the cause for which so many have died.

Elsewhere in this paper, we examine the establishment and media reaction to the Irish revolutionaries of 1916. It does not differ from today's.

Those Free State hypocrites who will try to draw distinctions between then and now will not like to dwell on the fact that those 1916 freedom fighters also actually shot at the enemy!

The grim statistics of Easter 1916 are, however, as bloody as any other war — 62 Irish Volunteers killed in action, 16 Irish Volunteers executed, 130 British soldiers killed, 346 civilians dead, 850 civilians wounded ...

And the meaty-mouthed establishment politicians of today will also drive from their minds some other unpalatable facts which do not quite suit their cosy rewritten history books.

They will not spend too much time recalling that none of those 1916 leaders were constitutional politicians or even elected at the ballot box.

Those who went to the GPO in 1916 would not be allowed into the Forum in 1984.

The Proclamation of the Irish Republic in 1916 stated all too clearly the mandate for armed struggle against the British occupier:

"We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished, except by the destruction of the Irish people."

"In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty, six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms."

"Standing on that fundamental right, and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a sovereign independent state, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare and of its exaltation among the nations."

Not too much in that historic document of joint sovereignty, extradition or collaboration.

After the Rising, and before he was murdered by a British firing squad, James Connolly unrepentantly said:

"Believing that the British government has no right in Ireland, never had any right in Ireland, and never can have any right in Ireland, the presence, in any one generation of Irish people, of even a respectable minority ready to die to affirm that truth, makes that government forever a usurpation and a crime against human progress."

At Easter 1984, just as unrepentantly, we share Connolly's belief.

Just before death, Pearse wrote:

"If you strike us down now we shall rise again and renew the fight. You cannot conquer Ireland; you cannot extinguish the Irish passion for freedom; if our deed has not been sufficient to win freedom then our children will win it by a better deed."

"We seem to have lost, but we have not lost. To refuse to fight would have been to lose, to fight is to win; we have kept faith with the past and handed on a tradition to the future."

At Easter 1984, we share Pearse's tradition.

EASTER COMMEMORATIONS



COUNTY ANTRIM
1.30pm Cargin Cemetery
11.30am Dunloy
Wreath-laying in St Joseph's Cemetery

BELFAST
1pm Beechmount Avenue
March to Milltown Cemetery
1.30pm Plm Street School
New Lodge Road

ARMAGH CITY
11.30am Moy Rd/Bambrook Hill

COUNTY ARMAGH
Feria Crossroads, Ballymacnab
March to cemetery
10.45am The Common, Belleeks
March to Republican Plot
After 10am Mass, Camlough
11am GAA pitch, Crossmaglen
March to cemetery
2.30pm Cullyhanna
March to McFerris Memorial
12.30pm Derrymacash Cemetery
After 11am Mass, Drumintee
Edentubber: Wreath-laying
after Killeavy commemoration
1pm Killeavy
Wreath-laying at
Sean Campbell Memorial
10am Mass, Lislea
2pm Francis Street, Lurgan
12.30pm Maghery Cemetery
7pm Community Hall, Mullaghbawn
March to Republican Plot
10.30am The Mall, Newry
March to Warrenpoint Rd Cemetery
1pm Hurson Park, Portadown

COUNTY CAVAN
2.30pm Milltown village
March to Drumlane Cemetery

COUNTY CLARE
3pm Ennis Tullow Road, Clooney
March to graveyard
11am Ennis
Wreath-laying at Drumcliff Cemetery
11am Newmarket-on-Fergus
Assemble at main road outside
graveyard for march to cemetery

DERRY CITY
2.30pm Bogside Inn, Westland Street

COUNTY DERRY
Bellaghy
12.30pm Wreath-laying at graves
of Francis Hughes &
Thomas McElwee
12noon Dungiven
Wreath-laying at
St Patrick's Churchyard
2pm Ballyrolin Road, Loup
11am Newbridge Cemetery
2.30pm The Diamond, Swatragh
March to Dean's Grange

COUNTY DONEGAL
3pm Stranorlar
March to Drumboe Woods

COUNTY DOWN
4.30pm Bann Road, Castlewailan
2.30pm Irish Street, Downpatrick
March to Killybegh Road Cemetery

(See Easter Monday)

ALL national, cultural and sporting groups, and trade unions, are invited to take part in the Easter commemoration ceremonies, which are organised by the National Graves Association, but no banners are to be carried on the parades.

People who wish to take photographs of the parades and ceremonies must first obtain permission from the organisers. In Belfast, press cards are available from the Republican Press Centre at 51/53 Falls Road.

DUBLIN
2.30pm Cathedral Street
(Off O'Connell Street)

COUNTY FERMANAGH
After 11am Mass, Derrylin
3pm Clones Road, Newtownbutler

COUNTY GALWAY
3pm Queally's Cross, Donaghpatrick
March to Donaghpatrick Cemetery

COUNTY KERRY
3pm Republican Monument, Cahirciveen
1pm Listowel town centre
March to Republican Plot
3pm Denny Street, Tralee
March to Rath Cemetery

COUNTY KILDARE
3pm Kilculin Road, Droichead Nua
March to Kilbaleen Cemetery

COUNTY LEITRIM
3pm Johnson's Bridge
March to Cloonemorris Cemetery

COUNTY LIMERICK
11.45am Bedford Row, Limerick city
March to Mt St Lawrence Cemetery
2pm Town centre, Atha
March to local cemetery

COUNTY LONGFORD
3pm Foxhall Cemetery, Lenamore

COUNTY LOUTH
11.30am Drogheda
March to Republican Plot
2.30pm Market Square, Dundalk
March to St Patrick's Cemetery

COUNTY MAYO
2.30pm Ballycastle
Dunfeeemy Cemetery

COUNTY MEATH
3pm Drumree
March to Knockmark Cemetery

COUNTY MONAGHAN
Wreath-laying at graves of
everyone on the county roll of
honour — see local press for details

2.30pm Monaghan town
O'Hanlon Memorial, Clones Road
March to Laturcan Cemetery

COUNTY OFFALY
3pm The Square, Clara
March to local cemetery

COUNTY ROSCOMMON
Ballinderry Cemetery
Fountainhouse

COUNTY SLIGO
12 noon Ballisodare
Handball alley to cemetery
3pm Sligo Town Hall

COUNTY TIPPERARY
3pm Coolbawn Cross, Fethard
March to St Johnstown Cemetery
10am Banba Square, Newbliss
2.30pm Knight's Cross, Puckane

COUNTY TYRONE
County commemoration
3pm Main Street, Carrickmore
12.15pm Ashghan Cemetery
12 noon Ardooe Cemetery

12.15pm Carrickmore Cemetery
(local commemoration)
12 noon Coalistand Cemetery
10.45am Edendork Cemetery
12 noon Eglishe Cemetery
11.45am Gallicy Cemetery
12.45pm Greenacres Cemetery
9.45am Moy Cemetery
12.15pm Trillick Cemetery

COUNTY WATERFORD
2.30pm The Glen, Waterford city

COUNTY WESTMEATH
2.15pm Ballyglash Cemetery

SAN FRANCISCO
2.15pm Holy Cross Cemetery
Colma, California

EASTER MONDAY
COUNTY CORK
12 noon Cobb Fire Station
March to Republican Plot

COUNTY DERRY
2pm Swatragh Chapel
March to Granahan

COUNTY DOWN
2.30pm Newtown Road, Rostrevor

DUBLIN
2.30pm Baker's Corner
March to Dean's Grange

EASTER TUESDAY
BELFAST
Ardayne
Assemble 1pm Saunders Club
March to Bellwick Road

BISHOP DALY SHUNNED DIALOGUE OFFER FROM SINN FEIN PRESIDENT

HYPOCRISY EXPOSED

BY KEVIN BURKE

THE HYPOCRISY of Bishop Cahal Daly of Down and Connor has been further exposed this week by the release of correspondence between Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams MP and Bishop Daly during last December and January.

Sinn Fein's decision to release the text of the letters follows Bishop Daly's sanctimonious claim — during the course of his anti-republican diatribe at the funeral of Mary Travers — that he wished that he could speak to republicans in order to show them the 'error of their ways'.

In fact, as the letters show, Daly had rejected a meeting with Adams, on the most spurious grounds, just a few months before. Adams would have to reject the use of physical force and "be willing to accept the teaching of the Church on this matter as binding" before Daly would agree to see him.

Daly, who has met with British direct-ruler James Prior, along with other members of the Catholic Hierarchy, which supplies chaplains to the British army, further exposed his unbalanced attitude to violence in the wake of the loyalist murder of Mrs Margaret Whyte on Wednesday night of last week.

Delaying any comment on that murder until a sermon on Sunday in Belfast, he presented his condemnation — in contrast to the tragic death of Mary Travers — in the context of a loyalist reprisal to "the evil of paramilitary republican murder".

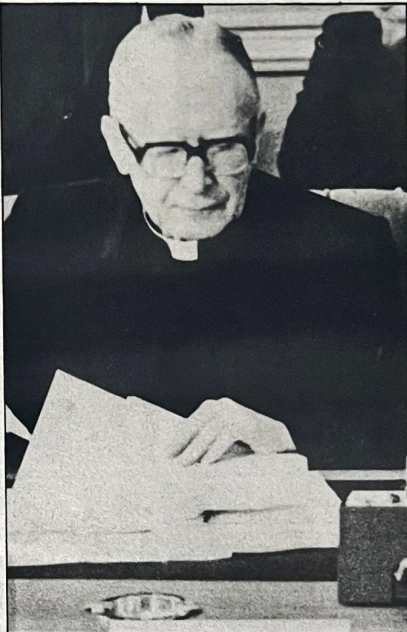
As ever, he omitted any reference to the root cause — British oppression in the North.

REVEALING

Announcing his decision to release the revealing correspondence, Gerry Adams said:

"While recovering in Donegal from injuries received in a murder attempt on myself and colleagues last month, I was saddened by the continuing deaths and injuries arising from the tragedy of the British colonial six-county state.

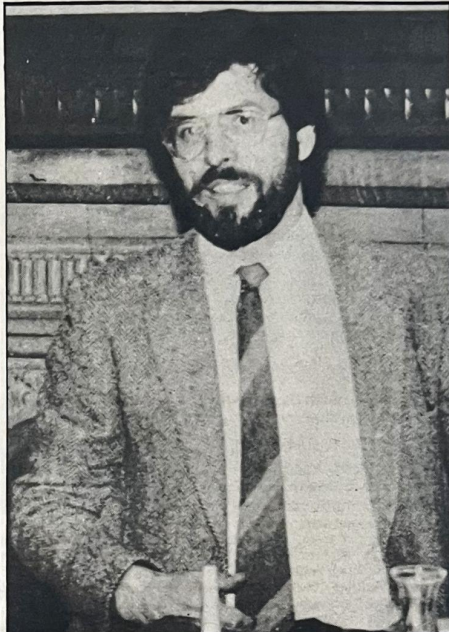
"I was particularly saddened by the civilian deaths, including the death of Mary Travers, and concerned by the way her death was exploited until it became yet another exercise in Sinn Fein bashing. It appeared to me that Miss Travers' death and the distress of her family was utilised, as has happened in so many other similarly tragic circumstances, as an occasion for selective



● Bishop Cahal Daly: refused to meet Gerry Adams

mourning, selective condemnations and selective morality.

"In particular, I was concerned by the tone of some parts of Bishop Cahal Daly's homily. I was not able to read the full homily until Sunday last, and while I accept and understand the bulk of what he said, my earlier apprehensions about two sections were confirmed. These sections are where he said he would "wish to speak directly to the leaders of the political organisation" of which I am president and when he called on the electorate to remember Mary Travers "if people who refuse to condemn her murder ask you later to vote



● Gerry Adams: still willing to talk to Bishop Daly

for them". The latter point is one which I am sure we will return to in the future, particularly during the EEC elections in which Sinn Fein is standing candidates throughout Ireland. The former point is of more immediate importance and central to this statement. In making his passionate appeal to talk directly to leaders of Sinn Fein, I believe that the bishop is being quite cynical, given his refusal to meet with me in December of last year.

"In order to show that I and those in the Sinn Fein leadership have never been reluctant to meet and talk with the bishop or anyone else, after serious

consideration I am releasing the text of correspondence between myself and Dr Daly.

"This correspondence was initiated by me after approaches from a number of people who, independently of each other, wished to see dialogue between the Catholic Hierarchy and Sinn Fein and in particular between myself, as MP for West Belfast, and the Bishop of Down and Connor.

"The bishop's failure to have such talks given his declaration in his book *Violence in Ireland* (page 80) that "talking should not be made, on one side or on the other, categorically conditional on prior demands being made", is all the more astonishing when one reads his homily at the funeral Mass for Mary Travers.

"As I have stated in my correspondence to the bishop, I am quite prepared to meet him."

January 16th 1984

"A Chara, Dr Daly,

"Many thanks for your letter of December 24th and apologies for the delay in replying to you. The Christmas period and an increased workload since then prevented me from replying as promptly as I should have.

"Let me say to begin that I was disappointed by your letter because I felt, and feel still, that if a solution to our present colonial difficulties is to be found, then dialogue without pre-conditions is of paramount importance.

"Given our respective positions and our interest in seeking a solution, my letter of 16/12/83 was merely an indication that I would make myself available for discussions with you.

"Whilst accepting your desire for confidentiality I cannot, in honesty, accept any other conditions, no more than I would expect you to accept conditions set by me.

"We all have a duty to seek ways to resolve the present conflict. This can only be done by means of dialogue and by an honest and frank exchange of views. I am sorry that you find it so difficult to commence such a dialogue at the present time.

Gerry Adams."

THE TEXT of the correspondence is as follows:

December 16th 1983

"A Chara, Dr Daly,

"During the last 12 months a number of people have suggested to me that you and I should have a meeting and that discussions between us would be of some benefit to the people of West Belfast.

"I have always expressed a willingness to meet you. In fact, I did so publicly on at least one occasion. Some of the individuals mentioned above tell me they raised this issue with you and that they were surprised that you hadn't contacted me for such a meeting.

"In the absence of such an approach from you I am taking this opportunity to inform you that I will make myself available for such a meeting.

"Many thanks. *Beir bua agus Nollaig shona duit,*
Gerry Adams."

December 24th 1983

"Dear Mr Adams,

"Thank you for your letter dated December 16th.

"As Catholic bishop, I have the responsibility of being chief pastor of the Catholic

people of Down and Connor. As such, I can and will never refuse to meet any one of my people who comes to me as pastor to seek moral or spiritual guidance.

"You write to me, however, not in your personal capacity but under the auspices of a political organisation of which you are president. This organisation is one which openly and publicly supports a campaign of physical force and indeed demands from its members "unambiguous support" for a physical-force struggle, which it declares to be "morally correct". This is completely contrary to the moral teaching condemning this physical-force campaign as morally evil — teaching which I, in the name of the Catholic Church and in union with my fellow-bishops and with the Pope, have consistently given.

"Your letter gives me no indication of willingness on your part to accept the teaching of the Church on this matter as binding on Catholics, or of any preparedness on your

part to revise your stated positions which are at variance with this teaching.

"In the light of this, and given the auspices under which you write and the agenda which your letter implies, I cannot at the present time accept your suggestion of a meeting.

"Pope John Paul, in his latest message for peace, calls for a conversion, a change of heart, as a condition for peace. I keep hoping for this change of heart on your part. As pastor responsible for the spiritual welfare of the Catholics of Down and Connor, I shall not cease believing that this change of heart is possible and praying that it may happen.

"If I were to receive any indication that a meeting might help towards that result, I should be more than happy to meet you. I reciprocate your Christmas greetings *agus gus síochain an tiarna linn uilig um Nollaig agus I gConai.*

Yours sincerely,
Cahal B. Daly."

THE ADAMS-DALY LETTERS

BIAS AT PORK FACTORY

BY SEAMUS BOYLE

AN INITIAL INQUIRY by the Fair Employment Agency into the Unipork factory in Cookstown, County Tyrone, has revealed indisputable evidence of what the report terms "a massive imbalance" in the workforce.

The FEA agreed to investigate Unipork, one of the largest employers in Cookstown, after pressure from the Sinn Féin elected representative for Mid-Ulster, Danny Morrison. Last December, Morrison referred to them the case of former Unipork employee 27-year-old Kieran McGrail, after McGrail was turned down in two job applications.

On December 19th, FEA chairperson Bob Cooper authorised an investigation into the complaint. This was welcomed by Morrison who at the time said:

"Although we are making this specific complaint it is the

general (underlined) employment practice which we want put under the microscope."

Whilst Kieran McGrail's individual complaint was lost, the FEA study has revealed that of the 300-plus employees at the Cookstown factory, 90% are non-Catholic in a catchment area which is evenly mixed. Of the male manual workers, 10% were Catholics, and of these more than half were drivers who were not working at the plant. The study also revealed that the method of recruitment — using internal notice-boards — naturally favoured Protestants, that the applicants accepted by the company as butchers last



● DANNY MORRISON

year (from which McGrail's complaint stems) were all Protestants and that loyalist flags and emblems were displayed at the factory in July. Unipork had denied this.

"Unipork," said Danny Morrison, "did not dispute the religious composition of the workforce and, in fact, made no

comment. Sinn Féin will, of course, now be closely monitoring recruitment to the new slaughterhouse which is being built and which is due to become operational in 1985."

INVESTIGATIONS

Whilst the FEA accepted Unipork's reasons for not employing Kieran McGrail (his previous absentee rate) they are initiating broader investigations under Section 12 of the Act.

Although, judging by previous studies by the toothless agency into the North's civil service and Belfast engineering companies such as Shorts and Harland & Wolff, these latest studies are unlikely to result in even marginally improved job opportunities for local nationalists, nevertheless they seem certain to expose further the blanket and pervasive sectarian discrimination operated at the Cook-

stown plant. As Danny Morrison pointed out:

"This is a significant victory, as Section 12 empowers the FEA to look at the composition, recruitment and employment policies of Unipork and all its establishments, including Enniskillen."

"Whilst Alan Kane of the DUP has tried to cover up the discrimination in Cookstown by alleging discrimination against Protestants in the County Fermanagh factory, it is generally accepted that the workforce in Enniskillen is evenly balanced."

"This investigation would not have been initiated had not Kieran McGrail brought his complaint to the attention of Sinn Féin, and we encourage anyone who believes that they are being unfairly discriminated against on grounds of their sex or religion to contact Sinn Féin if they need advice."

DESPITE the much-trumpeted EEC regional aid for areas with severe social and economic problems, the gap between the richest capitalist economies in the EEC and poorer regions such as the North has been growing, and is set to widen further, according to a report adopted by the European Commission.

The report reveals that, during the past ten years, the substantial regional imbalances in production and productivity within the EEC have not lessened and disparities in unemployment are actually worsening. In the economically strongest areas of the EEC (most of which

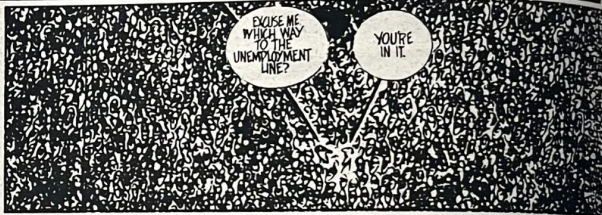
are in West Germany) unemployment stands at around 5%. Yet in the most severely affected regions, including the North, overall unemployment runs at over 20%.

In fact, in predominantly nationalist Strabane, official figures show that more than one in every

two men is without a job.

According to the report, in terms of unemployment and output, the six counties is the second-worst affected region in the EEC. Only Calabria in Italy is in a worse plight, the twenty-six counties is fourth from the bottom.

EEC GAP WIDENS



TIONÓL FIÚNTACH

LE DONALL Ó DUFAIGH

DÉ hAOINE agus Dé Sathairn seo caite, reachtáil Bord na Gaeilge (Cathairleach, an t-Ollamh Seán Ó Tuama) mhórthionól náisiúnta i mBaile Átha Cliath, d'fhonn a bhfuil sa Phelean Gníomhaíochta don Ghaeilge don bhliain 1984 a phlé go poiblí. D'fhreastal idir 400-500 Gaeilgeoir ó achán chearn den tír air.

Chonachtas dom go raibh spiorad nua i measc na nGaeilgeoirí, spiorad atá bunaithe ar an tuiscint nach dtig linn bheith ag brath ar pháirtí ar bith dóibh siúd atá i bPárlaimint an tAorstáit faoi láthair. Mar a dúirt Íte Ní Chionn-aith, tánaiste, Conradh na Gaeilge:

"Tá an Córás Stáit ina iomláine ag feidhmiú in aghaidh na Gaeilge. Ní tháinig cuid ar bith den tsaíocht i ndúl chun cinn na Gaeilge le blianta beaga anuas ón Rialtas."

Bhí seisiún ar leith ann le haghaidh gach réimse den phelean: Oideachas, Stát, Gaeiltacht is Pobal. Tá a fhios ag saoi Fódhla go bhfuil géargháb le tealeabhair le haghaidh teagasc tríd an Ghaeilge ach fuairamar amach gur dhiúltaigh Rialtas na sé chontae fichead múinteoirí a ligint saor ón seomra ranga chun iad a scríobh.

DÓCHAS

San iarnóin labhraíodh faoi comhartha dóchasach amháin, na Gaeilscoil-eanna agus na naíonraí. I 1978 bhí 22 naíonra sa tír ar fad, anois tá thart

fá 120 (40 acu sa Ghaeltacht) agus cheana féin i 1984 tá an Bord ag tarr-aingt ar an sprioc a bhí aige do 1986, sé sin, 160/170 naíonra sa tír.

Cháin Tarlach de Blácam ó Inis Meáin Roinn na Gaeltachta. Dúirt sé gur mhínic nach raibh an tairgead a bhí á chaitheamh ag an Roinn sin ag dul chun leas na Gaeilge agus mhóil sé féin agus Peadar Mac an Iomaire (Conamara) níos mó aird a thabhairt do na comharthumáin Ghaeltachta nach raibh ag tabhairt Beárlóirí isteach sa Ghaeltacht.

De réir tuairiscí éagsúla a rinneadh tá Gaeilge mhaith ag 20% de na daoine atá sna Sé Chontae is Fíche agus Gaeilge mheasarthá ag 40% eile, ach crolann RTE dhá uair a chloig de chláracha Gaeilge as 98 n-uair atá acu sa seachtain. Dúirt Brian Ó Baillí ó Udarás na Gaeltachta gurb é RTE an namhaid a ba mhó a bhí ag an Ghaeilge sa tír, agus fuairamar amach fá 'Léargas', Teach Mór Thoir, Indreabhán, Co. na Gaillimhe, atá ag iarraidh cuidithe d'fheachtas atá á thosú acu chun seirbhís cheart teilefíse a tháil i nGaeilge.



● An t-Ollamh Seán Ó Tuama ag labhairt ag an tionól

Tá sé mar aidhm ag Bord na Gaeilge go mbeadh teilefís lán-Ghaeilge ar bun i 1987. Molaim iad; agus bheadh sé maith fosta, Raidió na Gaeltachta a bheith ar fáil i gceart, i mBeál Feirste, dara cathair na tíre!

MOLTAÍ

Thug Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh le fios go bhfuil oifigigh Gaeilge ag 600 de i 1987. Molaim iad; agus bheadh sé maith fosta, Raidió na Gaeltachta a bheith ar fáil i gceart, i mBeál Feirste, dara cathair na tíre!

thaispeánann an easpa ceannasíochta ón Rialtas, a chuir stop riamh leis an Athbheochan.

Mhol Mac Réamoinn 'brúghrúpa' agus 'Polaitiú' na Gaeilge mar a tharla leis an Bhreathnais sa Bhreathnais Bheag.

Níl amhras ar bith orm fa dháiríreachthe pearsanta an chuid is mó de na daoine a bhí páirteach sa mhórhionól, idir Bord na Gaeilge agus eile; agus b'fhéidir, le sár iarracht, go dtig linn an Ghaeilge a choinneáil ag dul go dtí go dtí i gcomhacht in Éirinn Athnaithe, an t-ionghluaiseacht amháin atá náisiúnta go leor agus reabhlóideach go leor, le teanga náisiúnta na nGael a athbheochan, mar atá, Gluaiseacht na Poblachta.

PANIC IN THE FORUM

THROUGHOUT last week and this, the four parties involved in the drafting of the Dublin Forum report have been meeting privately, amidst reports of 'tension', 'serious differences', 'slow progress', and 'renewed efforts'. On Monday, April 16th, yet another deadline for the publication of the report was announced — April 30th or May 1st, or maybe later — while, over the weekend, public statements by Peter Barry and Dick Spring, the Free State government's Foreign Affairs minister and deputy-premier, reflected the Coalition's pessimism over the Forum's outcome and the growing panic of those involved.

The main obstacle to an agreed report has been Fianna Fáil's unwillingness to abandon the 'united Ireland or nothing' posture which it depends on for its votes and its 'republican' credentials. Favouring any other option, Haughey agreed, would leave the Republican Movement as the sole proponents of a united Ireland.

Meanwhile, Hume and the Coalition parties have been advocating 'joint sovereignty' as the most 'realistic' option, that is, the one most likely to evoke a favourable response from the Brits. Any Brit response at all could be used, the SDLP hope, to bring disgruntled SDLP voters back to the fold before the EEC elections in June; 'vote Hume, the modern-day Parnell...'

PROFILE

However, the Forum is as useful now to the SDLP as the report might be next month. The daily press coverage of rifts, followed by emergency meetings of party leaders, redrafting of paragraphs, rumours of all kinds, have certainly managed to keep up some kind of profile of a party which would otherwise make little impression on the lives of Northern nationalists. The Forum brings the SDLP the kind of respectability it thrives on, the artificial prestige conferred by expedient governments on six-county constitutional nationalists.

But the loser in this costly publicity exercise can only be the Northern nationalist community, whose future is being argued over in its absence, by parties whose main preoccupation is to exclude — if possible, even silence — a growing section of nationalist opinion represented



● The Forum report has been postponed (yet again!) as the participants flounder to find agreement and save what little is left of the SDLP's credibility by Sinn Féin.

The Forum's admitted aim, to "check or deflect the onward course of Sinn Féin", as one Dublin newspaper put it, can only lead to a dilution of nationalist demands along the Hume/FitzGerald line or to a divided nationalist camp, exposed to the contempt of the British government and the jeers of loyalists.

DESPERATE

The fear of being snubbed by London — based on the reality that Britain is obviously not about to negotiate — prompted a desperate plea by Dublin deputy-premier, Dick Spring, in his address to the Free State Labour Party conference last Sunday:

"No matter what the report contains, Britain must react. And Britain must react selflessly."

And in a speech on Friday, April 13th, the Free State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Peter Barry, promised Northern

nationalists his government's wholehearted support:

"We hope and pray that the Forum will succeed in its own objective, but even if it should not, we are determined... that the nightmare of the Northern minority will end, and that it will end now."

Barry's comments, in the "We will not stand idly by" vein, adopted by all Free State politicians in times of crisis, were described by Sinn Féin's director of publicity, Danny Morrison, as an "attempt to condition people to the failure of the Dublin Forum", and aimed at "ingratiating Fine Gael's Northern branch — the SDLP — with the nationalist community in the run-up to the EEC elections".

Indeed, Barry's noble words ring rather hollow, coming from a government which not a month ago handed Dominic McGlinchey over the border, and which spends close to half a billion pounds each year in maintaining that border.

Barring the unlikely event of the Forum

parties suddenly agreeing to push for British withdrawal and Irish reunification, the Forum will only manage to provide the Brits with an excuse for staying in Ireland. It will prolong the war, while undermining nationalist demands.

Set up as a "panic response to the rise of Sinn Féin", the Forum's next mistake, in Danny Morrison's words, was "the concept of drawing up and declaring one's definitive negotiating position to such an experienced imperialist power as Britain".

It is such a readiness to compromise and sell out which in the past propped up British "attempts at so-called internal settlements". However, Morrison concluded:

"We believe that the nationalist community is in the strongest position it has ever been since partition, because under Sinn Féin's leadership there will be no sell-out!"

A BRITISH soldier was shot and seriously wounded on Saturday night, April 14th, when an IRA active service unit attacked a foot patrol in Glasdrummond, South Armagh.

At approximately 6.45pm, the IRA unit, driving a previously commandeered vehicle and carrying automatic weapons, slowed down when approaching the patrol and opened fire before accelerating away at speed. The Brit was hit in the face and underwent emergency surgery in the military wing of Belfast's Musgrave Park Hospital.

Despite an intensive follow-up search of the immediate Glasdrummond area by the crown forces, all Volunteers returned safely to base.

BELFAST BLAST-BOMBS

In spite of 24-hour surveillance by remote control cameras and armed Brits, a daring attack was carried out on Sunday, April 15th, by Volunteers of Belfast Brigade IRA who lobbed

WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...

SOUTH ARMAGH ATTACK

two blast-bombs over the heavily fortified walls of Andersonstown Barracks causing interior damage. The barracks, which was completely devastated by an IRA bomb attack last May and rebuilt and strengthened to deter such attacks, again proved vulnerable to IRA ingenuity and the courage of its Volunteers.

DERRY SHOOTINGS

In a statement issued by the IRA's Derry Brigade on Tuesday, April 17th, the IRA admitted shooting local man Stephen Logue in mistake for undercover Brits the previous night.

Mr Logue, who was driving a Datsun car identical to that used by members of the under-

cover unit, according to the IRA, was shot during an operation designed to engage the enemy unit. In their apology, the IRA said:

"While such apologies might ring hollow and be attacked by those who would make political capital from the incident, we offer our deepest sympathy to the Logue family."

Derry Brigade IRA also claimed responsibility for an attack on the RUC in the Bogside area on Thursday night, April 12th, in which 14 high-velocity rounds were fired. In a supplied statement, the IRA pointed out that "contrary to RUC claims that local youths were being used by us as cover, in fact our attack occurred after the crowd had dispersed".



Labour laughing-stock

BY KEVIN BURKE

THE FREE STATE Labour Party's annual conference last weekend in Dublin was a joke from start to finish.

The problem first of all is that there are two Labour parties.

One is the 'not quite nice' poor relation of Fine Gael represented by the party's Leinster House deputies and Coalition ministers. Totally without ideology, hungry for power, but even more so for the trappings that go with it, they are overawed by being in government, lack the will or the confidence to pursue even their own watery brand of socialism and hide their inferiority complexes behind increasing ultra-conservatism and arrogance.

They are supported within the party by hangers-on, constituency placemen, and a large rural section attached to individual politicians, which would be happy being friends with any Leinster House member of any party who might have a bit of influence.

The other Labour Party — the minority — is a typical mixture of career trade unionists who rely on the party network for their advancement in their unions; enthusiastic scatter-brained 'Militants', pursuing some grand strategy known only to themselves; and an increasingly shrinking proportion of traditional supporters who are unhappy in the party but can see no other more attractive alternative.

In between the two groups skip the opportunists with carefully-controlled consciences —

Cluskey, Halligan, Higgins and the like.

CANCELLED

So, having cancelled last year's 'annual' conference because of fear of the members, the party leadership opened this year's event by narrowly defeating an effort to have its role in Coalition discussed!

That incidental matter out of the way, the rest of the weekend was plain sailing.

Speakers were, of course, allowed to criticise Coalition membership, but not to vote on the matter, and all they got for doing so were the usual platitudes from the platform and un concealed sneers from ministers.

And Dick Spring was pathetic. His first address as party leader was a boring flop.

LONG-AWAITED

The high-point of his speech was to have been the announcement of the birth of the long-awaited Labour Party 'input' into government — the National Development Corporation.

Much of the steam was taken out of Spring's announcement by Fine Gael's Minister for Industry, John Bruton, who beat him to it the night before, after a week of rows with Spring over the form it should take. Bruton's version was not the same as Spring's (neither have been officially adopted)



● Dick Spring ends his first address, a pathetic flop — most of the delegates stood up just to relieve the boredom

and the latter was forced to drop several paragraphs on the latest miracle solution from his prepared speech.

Instead, 'Spring the Socialist' blathered weakly about helping capitalist companies to "build up their equity base". It might have gone down well at a chamber of commerce dinner, but it certainly bombed at the party conference.

FORUM

Abandoning the embarrassing subject of unemployment, the party leader then gave us the benefit of his wisdom on the North, which was based on his hopes of an approving reaction from Britain to the Forum "no

matter what the report contains".

"We know that Britain is capable of great generosity," Spring told the conference, which followed his speech by defeating a motion calling for James Connolly's Labour in Irish History to be required reading for all members.

On radio the following day, Spring resurrected another bit of his speech which had been excised between the typed page and the microphone.

If Sinn Fein renounces its support for violence, said the man who led his party to fifth place behind Sinn Fein in Dublin Central, "I am prepared to do anything I can to facilitate

their introduction into the political process at any level."

But, warned Spring, "I will have no dealings under any circumstances with any person, elected or not, who was not prepared to renounce violence".

The previous night, Spring had informed delegates:

"I shall be participating in the welcome of the president of the United States to our country. I intend to share with him my concern that only respect for individual rights and justice allied with a commitment to the right to self-determination of small countries, will contribute to the development of progress in many of the countries in which he is interested."

CENSORSHIP SLAMMED

BY DAMIEN O'ROURKE

THE CENSORSHIP of Sinn Fein and the establishment distortion of events past and present were the targets for severe criticism at last weekend's fourth annual Scoil an Phiarsaigh, held at the school Padraig Pearse founded in Dublin, Scoil Eanna.

Opening the programme of lectures and discussions — on the theme *Irish history: Fact or fiction?* — Sean Dowling, a former pupil of Pearse's said:

"There has been a steady retreat by our leaders from the great ideals which motivated Pearse and his generation. Nevertheless, it should be remembered that the spirit of nationality cannot die and we need not lose heart."

"Our people are denied the opportunity to form an opinion on the question of an independent united Ireland and how it can be achieved. Because of the Section 31 ban on the airwaves, the voice of a considerable part of nationalist opinion cannot be heard in this part of Ireland. This has been so for about ten years now and it has made it virtually impossible for most people to develop an informed

opinion. Meanwhile, Paisley, Molyneux and company are constantly seen and heard in the newspapers, radio and television."

Sociologist Dr Mary Kelly, speaking during a symposium entitled *Are we being brainwashed?*, extended this criticism. She said:

"In examining the coverage of the conflict and violence in Northern Ireland by the news media, it seems that this coverage concentrates on reporting a procession of violent events perpetrated by the 'men of violence', each with its accompanying chorus of elitist condemnation. The news media consistently fails to explain the historical, social, economic and political contexts within which violence occurs."

"Rather than being simply 'objective' reporting, this form

of coverage contributes to the process whereby political violence is made to appear senseless, irresponsible and inhuman: it is criminalised."

"Most people in the South rely on the media, and especially radio and television news, for information and analysis of the Northern situation. The inadequacy of this coverage, the rendering of the political as irrational and criminal, has contributed significantly to a gross lack of comprehension by Southerners of what is happening in the North."

"How can the electoral gains of Sinn Fein among Catholic working-class and border areas be understood when for ten years Sinn Fein has been consistently presented as the political wing of murderers and thugs, whose faces and voices are so vicious and threatening to the state that they must be excluded from the air-waves by edict? On the other hand, the long-term brutalisation of the Catholic population by the Northern state and the withdrawal of their civil and legal rights has not been at all as consistently and repeatedly emphasised by the media."

"Not only is there a lack of understanding of the Northern situation, but Irish history in general cannot be adequately understood if the contribution of republicanism and 1916 is dismissed as simply an irrational cult."

"We are being brainwashed into ignorance, into incomprehension of our own society, North and South. Such incom-



● Scoil Eanna, Rathfarnham, Dublin, the setting for last weekend's Scoil an Phiarsaigh

prehension engenders a deep fear and impotence, a fear that we are incapable of understanding our past and hence unable to direct our present or influence our future."

DISTORTED

Irish Press editor Tim Pat Coogan also agreed that the Irish people are being given a distorted service by the media. He commented:

"Are Irish people brainwashed? I think the answer has to be an unqualified yes. The incursion of English papers, the horror of the British electronic media, the effects of the revisionist history and the sheer bombardment of our society by the forces of huge communication networks has an obvious cultural penetration."

Historian and journalist Michael Farrell criticised the authorities, both North and South, for the suppression of historical material, particularly of events after 1922. He continued:

"In general, the state of research about the Northern conflict during this century is a severe indictment of the history departments in Irish universities. There seems to have been almost a policy to shy away from documenting, probing and analysing the complex events there, and their reaction to them by government and people in the South."

"It is little wonder that history is increasingly dismissed as an irrelevant discipline when historians fail to grapple with the origins and background of the most serious problem facing the country."

CAVAN ANTI-EXTRADITION

BY TONY McKENNA

THE FOURTH in a series of anti-extradition marches, organised by South Ulster/North Leinster Sinn Féin took place on Saturday last in Cavan town. Despite continuous heavy rainfall, a crowd of several hundred people, including bands from Cullyhanna and Newry, took part in the parade. Banners from Counties Cavan, Monaghan, Armagh and Louth were carried, as were many placards calling for an end to the process of extradition.

At the meeting held afterwards, in the town's Market Square and chaired by Brian McKeown, the expanded crowd were heartened by the determined nature of the speeches delivered.

First to speak was one of the area's Sinn Féin EEC candidates, Caoimhghin O Caolain, who received an enthusiastic welcome from the Cavan crowd. O Caolain was bitter in his condemnation of the Coalition Free State government who, he declared, were "responsible for this latest betrayal in a long line of betrayals, reaching back over 60 years to when the republic itself was betrayed by the present government's fathers". He continued:

"The non-extradition of political offenders belongs to the time-honoured tradition of refuge and sanctuary and the actions of the Free State in handing over Dominic McGlinchey, and seeking to hand over Seamus Shannon and others, is tantamount to a denial of their own claim to statehood and sovereignty."

COUNCILLOR

The next speaker was Cavan County Councillor Charlie Boylan, who emphasised the need for all Cavan people to mobilise on this very important issue. He encouraged them to keep Saturday, April 28th, free in order to travel to the first national demon-



● Cavan County Councillor Charlie Boylan addresses last Saturday's rally

stration against extradition in Dublin. He said:

"The campaign against extradition will continue for as long as it is necessary to reverse this heinous process and you, the people of Cavan, will be afforded a further opportunity to express your dissatisfaction with the present government's actions when, on June 14th, you will give your votes to the Sinn Féin candidates and in that way we will drive the message home once and for all."

McALLISTER

Jim McAllister, Sinn Féin elected representative for South Armagh, commenced his address by naming Task Force Detective Seamus Fleming, who was skulking in the

crowd: "There is the man who fired the shots in Ballinamore and by all accounts, he is a damn bad shot as well."

The Market Square resounded to the enthusiastic applause as the uncovered, undercover detective made a hasty withdrawal from the area.

"I hope he brings the message back to FitzGerald," said McAllister, "that the people of Cavan will tolerate his treachery no more."

BLISTERING

The last speaker was Owen Carron Sinn Féin representative for Fermanagh/South Tyrone. Carron, in a blistering attack

on the gardai for their collaboration with the hated RUC and their clearly stated political interest in perpetuating partition, said that the recent photographs showing them handing over Dominic McGlinchey at the border demonstrated best that no differences remained between the two forces:

"Just as the RUC have failed to suppress the nationalist people of the six counties, the ever-increasing harassment and intimidation of Sinn Féin supporters in the twenty-six counties will have no effect, but will further alienate these collaborators from the very people they profess to protect."

Also present on the platform was Leitrim County Councillor John Joe McGil, vice-president of Sinn Féin.

London strip-search

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE HARASSMENT and victimisation of relatives of Irish POWs in England was highlighted at the weekend when a West Belfast woman was arrested under the racist PTA following a visit with her fiancé in Brixton Prison and subjected to three gruelling strip-searches in Paddington Green Police Station in London.

Geraldine Bailey, whose fiancé Tommy Quigley has been railroaded on a series of charges including bombing attacks in London, was arrested by the Special Branch at Victoria Bus Station on Saturday morning, April 14th.

In Paddington Green, all her belongings were searched by two women detectives who told her to strip naked. Adding to the humili-

ation of having to stand naked, the two detectives insisted on thoroughly searching her hair, mouth and even behind her ears.

Bailey, who by this stage was extremely nervous, was then taken to another room where a man, who claimed to be a doctor, again told her to strip for a "medical examination". He inserted several fingers into her back

passage which apart from causing her pain added to her overall humiliation.

On the third occasion, Geraldine was again unnecessarily strip-searched by the same women detectives and again her luggage was examined.

Bailey was questioned about herself, and her family, but she refused to answer questions about her fiancé. She was held in total incommunicado from her family in Belfast who were unaware that she had been arrested, a fact which added to her isolation, anxiety and fear. Geraldine was questioned a number of times until Sunday night, when she was finally released.



● One of the many protests outside Paddington Green Police Station

Damages

against garda thug

A MEMBER of Donegal Sinn Féin has been awarded damages of £5,223 against a garda for a brutal assault during an H-Block protest in Ballyshannon in August 1981.

Vera Bannon was part of an H-Block picket and was attaching a hunger-strike poster to an Ulsterbus in the

town when she was thrown to the ground by the uniformed thug, Garda Norman Kee, who then kicked her in the face, breaking her nose.

She has suffered from constant headaches and related problems since then.

Several witnesses gave evidence in Donegal Circuit Court, on Monday and Tuesday of this week, of the attack by Kee, and included independent witnesses not involved in the picket.

The trial judge rejected Kee's evidence and made the award.

However, the DPP has already ruled that no criminal prosecution will be taken against Kee and he remains a member of the garda.



● VERA BANNON

North Armagh

and discipline and the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, by its valour and its cowardice, its inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish Nation must, by its valour and discipline and the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good,

Castlewellian

The Media and t

THE RITUAL condemnations of the IRA and Sinn Féin which daily appear in the establishment media are understandably a source of anger for republicans. As if the blatant censorship of Section 31 and the self-censorship to which many journalists have succumbed isn't bad enough, editors have consistently demonstrated a crawling subservience to 'the government', whether British or Free State, and taken the side of might against right.

During Easter Week these same editorials will remember and applaud freedom fighters who proclaimed the Republic in arms 68 years ago. They will, however, be careful to distance that rebellion from the freedom struggle today and, with mind-boggling verbal acrobatics, they will try to convince us that, while force was justifiable in 1916, this is not the case today.

Most republicans will accept that their daily newspaper is simply propagating the interests of its owners and advertisers — the maintenance of the status quo.

If this is true today, it was equally so in 1916, when the media hurled a tirade of abuse at Pearse, Connolly and their comrades when they dared to oppose British rule in the 'heart of the Empire'.

In re-examining this media coverage, Jack Madden has discovered that the condemnation which is hurled at republicans today is as unoriginal as it is futile in discouraging republicans from completing the task which began 68 years ago — the defence of the Irish Republic.

BY JACK MADDEN

TRUTH being the first casualty of war, it was perhaps inevitable that the British authorities would impose strict censorship on the media throughout Easter Week 1916. Not that they were worried that the establishment press would prove disloyal, but there was always the possibility that had events in Dublin been reported, the 'contagion of sedition' might have spread.

Even before Pearse led his forces into armed conflict with the British Empire, the media in Ireland was aware that such a rebellion was possible. Commenting on the strikes amongst Welsh miners, Scottish armaments workers, and English dockers, the *Cork Examiner*, in an editorial on Easter Monday, warned of the 'hot-headed' people in Ireland 'generally known as the party of Sinn Féin' who were preparing to revolt:

"We urge on these young men to reconsider their position, to examine and judge for themselves the injury they may do to the cause of their country... The condition of our people today is very different to what it was when Tone sang serenade or when Davis wrote his immortal ballads."

"We are at least as well off individually as most lands, and for us the future holds prospects as hopeful as any in Europe."

MIDDLE-CLASS

That this prosperity benefited only an elite didn't matter. The creation of an Irish Catholic middle-class had given at least some people an economic stake in the Empire which had been denied any of the native Irish only a century earlier. In justifying their defence of that stake, the middle-class was careful to distance itself from revolution, while at the same time claiming the revolutionary tradition of Tone and Davis.

That in each generation the establishment will attempt to justify past revolutions while denouncing the same revolution in their own day was again demonstrated following Easter Week, when the *Irish News* commented:

"Every attempt at an Irish uprising-in-arms from 1641 to 1867 was justified by conditions of the people and the country at each period."

"In 1641, 1689, 1798, 1803, 1848 and 1867 it was patently hopeless to expect a measure of justice or a glimmer of liberty through the operation of any other method. Within the past 35 years measures of justice that the most ardent patriots who ever took up arms for Ireland scarcely ambitioned have been secured for the whole people; in 1916 the nation's cause holds a position of security to which it had not been brought by all the struggles and sufferings of the past."

CONSTITUTIONALISM

Thus, while legitimising the armed rebellions of an earlier age, the establishment was careful to point out that these had

failed and that constitutionalism had worked.

Just as John Hume is portrayed as the voice of 'sanity' today, so was his forerunner, John Redmond.

Stopping just short of deification, the *Irish News* wrote on April 25th, the second day of the Rising:

"We can only refer to these Dublin happenings as grim and ghastly proofs of the far-seeing wisdom, true statesmanship and steadfast patriotism of the Irish leader and those colleagues of his who saved a great national movement which had enlisted the young manhood of Ireland within its ranks from falling completely and hopelessly into the hands of irresponsible individuals."

Here again we see the development of a theme with which republicans today are attacked — the 'godfather syndrome'. By portraying Volunteers as 'the unhappy victims of evil counsel and bad example' or simply as 'dupes', the media could concentrate its venom on the leadership and particularly on James Connolly.

CONNOLLY

To say that Connolly was hated by the Irish establishment would be an understatement. Unlike most of the leadership, he had already challenged the economic interests of Irish as well as British capitalists. If 'evil example is infectious', as the *Irish News* stated on April 28th, then Connolly's example was regarded as by far the greatest threat. The *Cork Examiner* wrote:

"The lamentable outbreak that bids fair to complete the financial ruin of Dublin, already staggering for the last three years from blows directed from the same source, will be read with grief and indignation throughout the country... the position is best described as a communistic disturbance rather than a revolutionary movement."

If this 'grief and indignation' was to be found anywhere, it was in the offices of the *Irish Independent*, whose owner, William Mar-

tin Murphy, had been the prime mover on the employers' side during the Great Dublin Lock-out of 1913. Although the 'Indo' offices were too close to the battlefield during Easter Week for a paper to be produced, Murphy saved his venom until the following week, when he blamed the rising on the failure of the government to confront 'Larkinism':

"We see the result, for the 'Citizen Army' was the backbone of the insurrection which has brought such ruin and misery to the city of Dublin. The influence of Liberty Hall and of sympathisers of the type of the Countess Markievicz was distinctly sinister."

EXECUTIONS

When the call was raised to make an example of the leaders, a call which only diminished when it was found that the policy of executions was having the effect of winning sympathy for the rebellion, it was hardly surprising that the *Irish Independent* should have continued its support for the executions until Connolly was 'disposed' of.

After the first executions, the *Independent* commented that it cared little "what is to become of the leaders who are morally responsible for this terrible mischief", and again on May 10th, when it was clear that the executions were no longer 'popular', it made it clear that Connolly should not be allowed to live:

"When, however, we come to some of the ring-leaders, instigators, and the fomentors not yet dealt with, we must make an exception... Some of these leaders are more guilty and played a more sinister part in the campaign than those who have been already punished with severity, and it would hardly be fair to treat these leniently because the cry for clemency has been raised while those no more guilty than they have already been severely punished... Let the worst of the ring-leaders be singled out and dealt with as they deserve."

As if to show exactly who the *Independent* meant, another edi-



● Easter 1916: Irish Volunteers, bloodied but unbowed, are marched down Dublin's Eden Quay to board ships bound for internment camps in Britain

orial on May 13th said:

"With the execution of James Connolly and John McDermott... the penalty of capital punishment should not, we think, be inflicted in any other case."

RETRIBUTION

But it would be wrong to single out just one newspaper in examining this call for revenge. Like the *Independent*, the *Irish Times* was vociferous in demanding suitable retribution. As a paper representing unionist opinion, this was hardly surprising, but it reflected a unanimity between establishment newspapers which was a mirror image, and directly proportional to, the parliamentary alliance between Redmond and Edward Carson at that time.

This alliance was based on the submerging of the national ideal to maintaining the Empire. The Easter Rising was seen as a stab in the back and a distraction from the great issue which united all imperialists — the defeat of Germany. This point was emphasised in a *Belfast Newsletter* editorial on April 27th:

"The first feeling on reading these reports [of the Rising] is one of satisfaction at the fact that the government is taking proper measures to re-establish its authority and restore order in the capital, and next is one of indignation at the blow which the rebels have endeavoured to strike at the heart of the Empire."

"At a time when ministers should have to think only of providing for the safety of the Empire from external foes, and of the means of achieving victory, they are suddenly called upon to meet this new danger... Viewed in this light, the Rising must appear to every loyal man to be

an appalling crime. There was nothing to provoke it or excuse it."

GERMAN PLOT

Since they could not understand why the Rising had occurred, the newspapers had to create reasons which they felt would explain the event. Thus arose the 'German Plot' (the first of many), where the wily Kaiser had enlisted renegade Irish men to open up a new front against Britain.

This approach went down particularly well with the English media. On April 26th the *London Times* said of the Rising:

"It is evidently a result of a carefully arranged plot, concocted between the Irish traitors and their German confederates."

Playing on this idea of conspiratorial treason, they added, on April 29th:

"It must be amongst the first tasks of those responsible for the suppression of the revolt to teach this class that rebellion in time of war is a crime bringing prompt and heavy punishment upon the guilty."

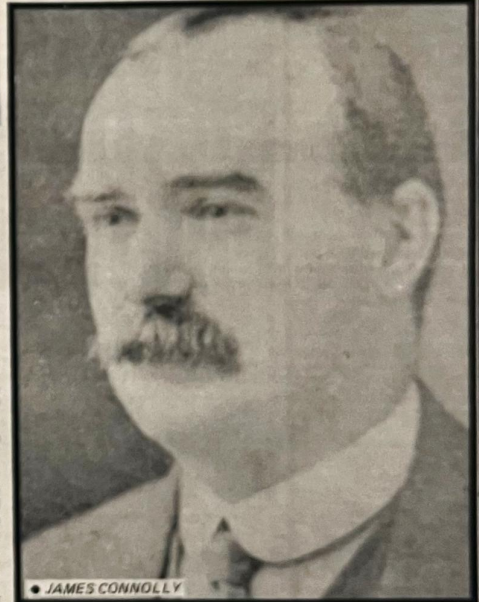
Believing that "it is inconceivable that they [the Irish Volunteers] would ever have entered upon such a contest had they not been deluded by lavish promises" the *London Times* dismissed as ridiculous the denial by Germany that its government was involved. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* wrote:

"Of course, there is no lack in the English press of hints and open assertions that Germany is the instigator of the Irish revolution. Such things were said even before the war. This much is true: that there is in Germany the most lively sympathy with this

The Easter Rising



• PADRAIG PEARSE



• JAMES CONNOLLY

disputed, plundered, downtrodden and despairing people. If the Irish succeed in winning independence, Germany assuredly will not judge it then, and our best wishes go with the arms of the Irish fighters for freedom.

"Beyond this, it is difficult for Germany to do anything for the Irish people which is trying to shake off its oppressors."

If the German Plot could not be proven, the theory was promoted anyway, and the capture of Roger Casement, days before the Rising, lent credence to those who promoted the lie.

FANCIFUL

Since actual reports of the Rising were censored, the British press in particular relied on fanciful accounts of eyewitnesses such as a doctor who returned to London and gave this account of the outbreak of hostilities:

"The rebels fired on all traffic, regardless of consequences, and then after tram was riddled with shot. Some men who saw this scene, although limping along on crutches, approached the rebels. 'For God's sake don't shoot innocent people!' cried one, while another called out 'You are killing your own mothers and sisters!' But the rebels were heartless."

Stories like this and others of looting by the Volunteers are part and parcel of the black propaganda with which governments sanction repression. Because of the thousands of Irish men fighting in the trenches, the racist denunciation of the Rising which republicans today experience was hardly evident, but the 'sub-human' tag could still be attached to the Volunteers. On May 1st the London Times said:

"Those of the traitors who

have not been killed, wounded or captured, have slunk away to their homes and the 'army' which plotted to overthrow British rule and establish a republic in Ireland is no more."

"A few 'invincibles' scattered here and there about the city still fire furtively from windows at anybody, whether man, woman or child, soldiers or civilians, who come within their range."

OFFICIALS

Denunciation of the government officials who had stood back and allowed 'sedition' to grow in Ireland came from both sides of the Irish sea, and, as Chief Secretary, Augustine Birrell became the scapegoat of the media and the loyal public. On the day of Birrell's resignation from government, a letter appeared in the London Times which demonstrated this disgust:

"Sir,
"It is announced that in the Post Office at Dublin was discovered a quantity of 'paper money of the Irish Republic'. May one suggest that this be used to pay the salary of Mr Birrell?"

Generally the media in Ireland believed that Birrell's performance as Chief Secretary was not something to be joked about. They despised him as the weak link in a chain of circumstances which made the Rising possible.

In its defence and support for John Redmond and his Irish Parliamentary Party, the media was quick to condemn the republican Volunteers as unrepresentative of the Irish people. This view was proclaimed in the Irish News on May 4th:

"The whole sad business was conceived and planned, and carried into fatal effect, without the

knowledge or sanction of the Irish nation. Had it been possible to take a vote of the people of the country on the issue, 99% of them would have declared against such an attempt without hesitation, and with all the power of protest they could muster..."

"The wise counsel of earnest and patriotic leaders will not be flouted henceforward by the 'hot-headed' members of the Irish community... Our confidence unimpaired and our faith imperishable in those leaders remain. With them is Ireland's certainty of freedom."

The Irish Times went even further:

"The insurrection was the work of a minority. Ireland as a whole regards it with dismay and horror. She is burning to repair the shame, and make herself worthy of her gallant sons in France."

STERN MEASURES

Every newspaper called for strong government and stern measures to obliterate the threat of a further uprising; some, such as the Irish Times of May 10th, demonstrated a machoistic need to purge Ireland through martial law:

"Much nonsense is likely to be written in newspapers and talked in parliament about the restrictions of martial law in Ireland. The fact is that martial law has come as a blessing to us."

"We hope that every patriotic Irish man will raise every proposal to curtail the period of martial law in this country. We have learned by bitter experience that the sword of the soldier is a far better guarantee of justice and liberty than the peace of the soldiers."

That this sword of repression

would prove double-edged, and that within a few short years Irish people would again take up arms to resist British rule, none of the newspapers could imagine. They saw the Easter Rising either as an isolated and inexcusable affront to constitutional politics or as a conspiracy, which failed miserably, between Irish rebels and their German allies.

But, most of all, they attempted to portray it as a bout of rowdiness which could be criminalised and, most importantly, isolated.

The media then, as now, showed how out of touch it was with the ordinary people, and demonstrated a sickeningly patronising tone.

Forgetting that people can

judge events for themselves, the Irish News, in an editorial of May 2nd 1916, said:

"We place these historical facts and elementary considerations before the public so that men who have not learned to think for themselves may be induced to pause and wonder, and understand more clearly the reality of the horrible — perhaps irretrievable — disaster into which Ireland would have been plunged."

And the Irish Independent, in typical subservience, pleaded on May 4th:

"Let the moral not be lost upon us or upon our rulers. Let us, in God's name, be done with revolution, or thought of revolution, in Ireland, whatever be its guise or pretext."

IN DIL CHUIMHNE

DOYLE, Sean, (40th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flann Sean Doyle, Patrick Pearse Sluagh, Flanna Éireann, who was shot dead accidentally on his 16th birthday, on April 10th 1944. You, Sean, were one of the faithful few who stood by the proclamation of Pearse and the Volunteers of 1916, when your father, brothers, sisters and all your comrades were in jail. Always remembered by his mother, brothers, sisters and Bob Corrigan (HB).

HUGHES, Samuel; McCRYSTAL, Charles; McERLEAN, John, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Sean Hughes, Charlie McCrystal and John McErlean, who died on April 17th 1972. Go ndána Dia tróscail ar an-anamacha. Always remembered by the Joseph Cunningham Sinn Féin cumann, Bawnmore/Newtonabbey, Belfast.

HUGHES, Samuel; McCRYSTAL, Charles; McERLEAN, John, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Sam Hughes, Charlie McCrystal and John McErlean, who died on April 17th 1972. Always remembered by their friend Big Paddy.

MCDERMOTT, Sean, (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend and comrade, Vol Sean McDermott, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died on active service on April 1976. While in Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace. Always remembered by Seamy, Pickles, Whitley and Bernard, (HB).

McKIBBEN, Trevor, (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend and comrade, Vol Trevor McKibben, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died while on active service duty on April 1977. I miss you, Trevor, and I miss the comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

O'CALLAGHAN, Brendan, (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son, Vol Brendan O'Callaghan, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who gave his young life on April 23rd 1977. Mary, Queen of the Gael, intercede for him. Nothing can dim the face we loved, the memory of his smile, the things he did for others to make their lives worthwhile, and now his life is over, we long to let him know, how proud we are that he was ours and how dearly we loved him so. Loved and missed so much by his loving father and mother.

O'CALLAGHAN, Brendan, (7th Anniversary). Beautiful memories of my brother, Vol Brendan O'Callaghan, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by British thugs on April 23rd 1977. A rose is nature's loveliest flower, each bloom perfumed so sweetly, that even when the flower fades the memory stays completely. Always missed by his sister Pauline, brother-in-law and family.

O'CALLAGHAN, Brendan, (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Brendan O'Callaghan, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died on active service on April 23rd 1977. Lay him away on the hillside, along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of fame in letters of purest gold. Always remembered by Brig and large family circle.

O'CALLAGHAN, Brendan, (7th Anniversary). In loving memory of our dear friend and comrade, Vol Brendan O'Callaghan, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was shot dead by crown forces on April 23rd 1977. Your sacrifice and death will not be in vain, it will strengthen our commitment and resolve, inspiring us on to victory. Always remembered by Seamy, Pickles, Whitley, Jackie, Bernard, Jas McCann, Big Joe, Micky and Ginty (HB).

O'RAWE, Edward, (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Eddie 'Mundo' O'Rawe, who died on April 12th 1973. It does not take a special day to make us think of you, you are always with us in our prayers and thoughts. Always remembered by his cousin Mary and all at No. 45.

O'RAWE, Edward, (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friend Eddie 'Mundo' O'Rawe, who was murdered by British occupation forces on April 12th 1973. We do not forget you nor do we intend, we think of you often and will, to the end, grieve and forgotten by some you may be, but dear to our memory you ever will be. St. Anthony, pray for him. Always remembered by Mr and Mrs Bryson.

O'RAWE, Eddie, (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Eddie O'Rawe, 'O' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by occupying crown forces in Ireland on April 12th 1973. Lay him away on the hillside, along with the brave and the bold, inscribe his name on the roll of fame, in letters of purest gold. Always loved and remembered by his Aunt Maisie and Fitzsimons family circle.

SMYTH, Brian, (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Brian Smyth, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died while on active service duty on April 1973. Codall go dtéann an t-ádh; ní dhéanfaimid dearmad ort. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

Students in vigorous mood

BY TONY BARRY

THE 26th ANNUAL CONGRESS of the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) was held in Wexford town over last weekend, April 12th to 15th. Delegates were in a vigorous mood after a year of successful campaigns against government cut-backs in education, North and South.

In his opening address to the congress, the outgoing president, Joe Duffy, warned students that they must stand firm against all attacks on education and declared that they must continue to "vigorously assert that we will not be sacrificed on the altar of monetarism".

He also told students that the onslaught on students as 'subsidised brats' has been dealt with seriously: "Those who wished to attack us did so by labelling those who were raising the issue as mollycoddled students, subsidised brats, or a privileged elite. This 'Brideshead Revisited' image of third-level education has been given a decent burial in the past year."

There was a lot of confidence in the strength and policies of the union, a confidence strengthened by the success of the campaign against the withdrawal of medical cards from students over the age of 16 and the re-affiliation of several colleges, including the two

largest, University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin, to the national union this year.

The congress reiterated its policy of uniting all students in action to stop the cuts and the stepping up of the defence of its members on the basis of a programme of actions, strikes, demonstrations, occupations etc, which would lead to a general strike, if necessary.

There was strong condemnation of the discriminatory grant schemes offered by the British and Free State governments and delegates called for student representation on committees which decided the content and control of education. Calls for the establishment of a third-level college for West Belfast were unanimously supported, as were demands for the full reimbursement of travel costs to be restored to Northern grant holders.

A motion passed at the conference commended the "brave and courageous

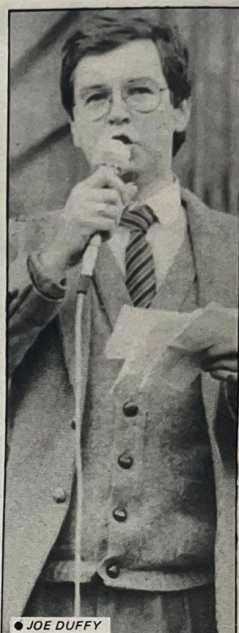
efforts of local communities in successfully eradicating the drug-dealers from their communities". USI was also mandated to affiliate to the Campaign Against the Criminal Justice Bill and will be affiliating to the Reagan Reception Campaign.

A statement from Sinn Féin to the students' delegates was read out at the conference and said:

"We congratulate the students for the principled stand and ultimate victory in the medical card campaign earlier this year.

"We can only assume that the effect of this campaign has led the twenty-six county government to shelve their plans to introduce a discriminatory loan scheme which would only further hinder working-class participation in third-level education.

"However, we view with disdain the way the Coalition government used the gaudy to try and quash the student campaign to retain their medical cards. This further highlights the government's total rejection of student involvement in their education as can be seen by their cursory rejection of the USI submission to the Minister for Education's four-year action programme.



JOE DUFFY

"We pledge our continued support and solidarity to students throughout the thirty-two counties and especially to those in the six counties who must live under the constant threat to the stability of their education because of the repressive nature of that state."

DUNDALK CUSTOMS PROTEST

BY MAIRE DE BARRA

MEMBERS of Newry Road Residents Association and Dundalk Sinn Féin blocked the main Dundalk to Newry Road on Friday evening, April 13th, as part of the campaign in opposition to the siting of a new



Dundalk residents and Sinn Féin members protest at road dangers

customs clearance station.

Sinn Féin has pledged its continued active support to stop the area being used as an assembly point for scores of large lorries, with all its detrimental effects and dangers for local people.

Prisoners' relatives organise

FRIENDS and relatives of Dublin republican prisoners in Portlaoise Jail met on Sunday last, April 15th, to form a relatives' action committee which will work in conjunction with Sinn Féin's POW Department in Dublin.

Relatives spoke of the increasing tension many of the prisoners and their families are experiencing due to the continued refusal of the prison authorities to allow any physical contact on visits and the absolute denial of any privacy.

An update was given on the work being done by the existing relatives' committee, which was formed last February. This included the lobbying of local politicians and clergy on the question of segregation on visits and the obscene strip-searches which regularly result in prisoners being sentenced to two months' solitary confinement



with loss of remission. It was learned that such searches are on the increase with the total for March amounting to 82.

A social welfare 'entitlements' pack for prisoners' wives, prepared by the Sinn Féin Women's Department, was distributed and a delegate from the Russell/McDonnell Sinn Féin cumann (East Wall/Sherriff Street) said that their members would be

organising creche facilities for those who wanted to leave their children with someone while going to the jail on a Saturday.

A special plea was made for funds to help the cost of insuring and maintaining the relatives' bus and members of the Cathal Brugha Sinn Féin cumann (Saggart/Rathcoole) undertook to give help in this area.

In the coming weeks the

POW Department will be launching its Portlaoise newsletter along with two information leaflets and a poster depicting a visit in the jail.

The committee of seven which was elected will be holding its first meeting on Sunday, May 6th, and welcomes support from anyone interested in working on the prisoners' behalf.

Stay indoors

BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

COALITION Minister for Defence Patrick Cooney has set our minds at rest over the dangers of being annihilated in a nuclear holocaust.

Last Wednesday, in Leinster House, he gave us the benefit of his advice on what to do in the event of such a war. He said:

"The mere fact of staying indoors in itself would provide a significant protection."

On the other hand, the Free State's main nuclear shelter and communications centre happens to be under Athlone in Cooney's own constituency. 'Indoors' can obviously mean different things to different people.

★★★

If you think that Ireland can have no markets or trading partners or economic future outside of the so important EEC, then consider this.

By the year 2025, according to EEC statistics, the EEC population will be a mere 2% of the world population — which puts things in proportion.

There's a big exciting world out there, folks!

★★★

The sooner this Criminal Justice Bill comes in the better. Law and order has completely broken down.

Just look at some of the cases before the courts in the past week.

In Wexford District Court Garda James O'Sullivan faced 54 charges involving embezzlement of sums of money during the course of his employment.

Garda Sergeant Sean Kent was charged in connection with 24 similar offences.

Both were released on bail. Also in Wexford, Garda Sergeant Patrick O'Neill was charged with obtaining £4,000 cash from a Thurles man by falsely claiming that he was in a position to obtain a financial grant for him.

And in Dublin, Garda Hugh Roddy, of Beaumont, appeared in court charged with obtaining £6,500 with intent to defraud by falsely pretending possession of a taxi plate issued according to the rules and regulations.

Watch your pockets and handbags, there might be a Garda about.

★★★

Three British soldiers, Stephen Reid, Colin Vicarey and Ian Hiley, of the Royal Anglian Regiment, received glowing commendations from their senior officer, in Cambridge, at the end of last month.

"All three are the sort needed in the army," said Captain David Ridgway.

Reid is an "asset to the platoon" and he and Vicarey are likely to become non-commissioned officers.

"Hiley is the sort of soldier we need in the battalion and his skills will be most useful in Northern Ireland."

The skills possessed by all three, involved beating up two students, one of whom was hurled to the ground and was systematically kicked in the head — 'grad-bashing' as it is called. The commendations were, of course, made in court.

Two weeks previously, the Cambridge judge had sentenced two civilian 'grad-bashers' to three years' imprisonment, but, realising their value to Queen and country, let the three Brits off with a £150 fine each.

★★★

The fact that the trial of Britain's would-be-spy Michael Bettaney was held totally in secret probably drew some sighs of relief



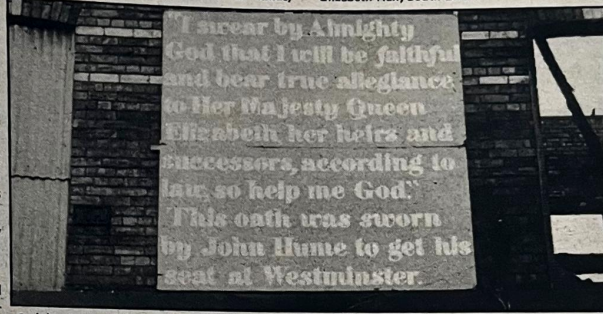
THIS display of photographs from APRN was part of the Belfast Exposed exhibition which was recently staged for a week in Geneva, Switzerland.

The photographic display, compiled by Belfast amateur camera enthusiasts and containing several hundred photos of all kinds,

will be in London for an all-day showing on Saturday, April 21st.

The exhibition is part of a major Irish event in the British capital, which also includes concerts, theatre and discussions.

Very suitably, it takes place in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank.



John Hume will have been swearing a few oaths of a different kind since this rather embarrassing reminder was erected in Derry's William Street

in Dublin.

During Bettaney's long stay on M15 anti-IRA duty in the North, he is reported to have been a regular visitor to Dublin, where he communed with several well-known senior Special Branch officers.

It was, though, Bettaney's disillusionment with Britain's role in the North which is said to have caused his ideological conversion to communism.

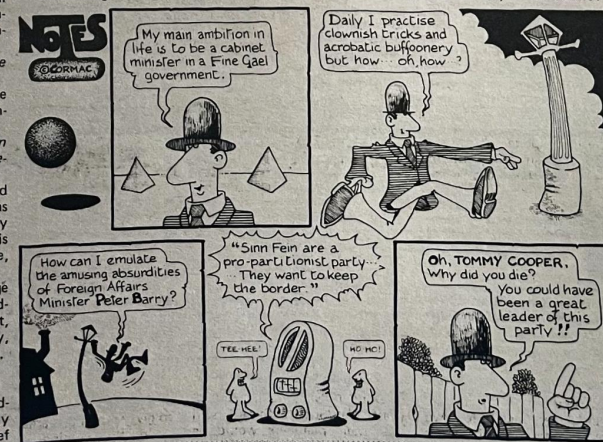
★★★

Not content with occupying half of the grounds belonging to the Rangers GAA Club in Crossmaglen, the Brits recently took sledge-hammers to a section of wall belonging to the club and reduced it to rubble.

The reason for the destruction was the difficulty which a large crane and trucks were having squeezing through the back entrance to the Brit base.

★★★

Interesting to see how the 'national'



Imeachtaí

JOE CLARKE COMMEMORATION
(8th Anniversary)
Sunday 22nd April
11.30am Mass, University
Church, St Stephen's Green
1.45pm at gates of
Glasnevin Cemetery
DUBLIN

EEC ELECTION FUND SOCIAL
Speaker: Caoimhghin Ó Cailín
Music by The Northern Stars
8.30pm Sunday 22nd April
Crossroads Inn
MILLTOWN
County Cavan

EIRE NUA FLUTE BAND BENEFIT DISCO
8pm Sunday 22nd April
New Barnsley Social Club
BELFAST
Table E1

EASTER CEILI
9pm Sunday 22nd April
Ballygarry House
TRALEE
Bar extension

BALLAD SESSION
Music by Northern Folk
& Shillelagh
9pm Monday 23rd April
INF Hall
COOKSTOWN
Table E2

UNVEILING OF RODDY MCCORLEY MEMORIAL
Speaker: Danny Morrison
1pm Tuesday 24th April
Erin's Own GFC
TOOMEBRIDGE

BALLAD SESSION
Music by the Dublin City Ramblers
Easter Tuesday 24th April
Wexford Inn
Wexford Street
DUBLIN
Table E3

DUBLIN INNER-CITY EEC ELECTION MEETING
(Essential that all members & supporters attend)
7.45pm Thursday 26th April
5 Blessington Street

BALLAD SESSION
Speaker: Danny Morrison
Music by The Freeman
8.30pm Thursday 26th April
Town Hall
NEWRY

SINN FEIN & THE EEC PUBLIC MEETING
Speakers: Owen Carron & Eddie Fullerton
9pm Thursday 26th April
Jack's Place
ANAGRY
County Donegal

BUFFET & DANCE
9pm Friday 27th April
Manor Inn
Old Railway Hotel
KILLORGLIN
County Kerry
Featuring: The Pikemen
Table E5
For tickets phone Killorglin 61499

NATIONAL RALLY AGAINST EXTRADITION
Prominent speakers
2.30pm Saturday 28th April
Parnell Square
DUBLIN

WELCOME HOME SOCIAL
For Pat Treanor (Portlaoise) & Josie Downs (Armagh)
Sunday 29th April
Hibernian Hotel
CLONES
County Monaghan
Bar extension & supper.

REVIEW PAGE

Rumblings and reality

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE RUMBLINGS from the Forum suggesting that maybe they might have had their report ready last Thursday inspired yet another RTE *Today Tonight* special.

Film of submissions to the Forum were mixed with interviews with 'People with Opinions' on the subject of a united Ireland.

A Professor Brendan Cullen, addressing the Forum, said that the majority of people in the country did want a united Ireland, but that this had to be re-interpreted as them not really not wanting it at all (?).

Pádraig Glynn (Fianna Fáil) stated bluntly that the Brits should withdraw their guarantee to the unionists and simply go. The Forum, he said, should advise a unitary state as, "It's a legitimate thing to say." Fianna Fáil always find saying much safer than doing.

Senator Brid Rogers (SDLP), who insisted on calling Pádraig Flynn "Pádraig Faulkner", wanted to "engage union-

ists in dialogue" and waffled on about everybody wanting a united Ireland, but sure they couldn't have it!

However, Michael O'Leary (Fine Gael) must be awarded the prize for the best avoidance of the truth of the night.

"There has been," he said, "some opposition, almost armed opposition, from loyalists to the idea."

Louise Gavan Duffy was born in France in 1884, where her father, Charles Gavan Duffy, was living in exile. She had never heard the Irish language spoken until she came to Ireland with her father's funeral in 1903. She was determined to learn to speak Irish, and stayed here to do a university course. She became a founder member of

TV & RADIO

Cumann na mBan, and was in the GPO during the 1916 Rising.

RTE2 showed a film interview with her on Thursday, April 12th, which was made in 1982, seven years before her death. She talked about teaching in Pearse's school for girls, St Ita's, which was set up to complement his boys' school, St Enda's.

In spite of taking the Treaty side, Louise Gavan Duffy's service to Ireland, particularly the language, was notable. She founded Scoil Bhride in the 1920s, which is still one of the foremost Irish-speaking schools in Dublin.

Crime Report, on RTE Radio 1 on Friday afternoon at 2pm, spoke to people living in the areas of Dublin's inner city which have suffered most from the heroin problem.

They spoke of how their lives had been tortured with robberies, muggings and handbag snatches by young people

desperate for money to buy drugs, of stolen cars being raced round the flats complex, and of children picking up syringes left by addicts.

The gardai, they said, did nothing.

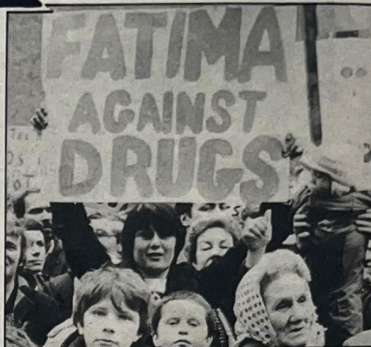
All the people interviewed supported the work of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Campaign and said that robberies and handbag snatching had stopped and that there were virtually no drugs at all in their areas. The people had got rid of the pushers themselves.

"I was in court for selling apples and oranges," one woman said, "and I got fined £200. A pusher was up after me and was fined £10. The guards do nothing, nor the courts."

The women were scathing about the "upper-class people in their red-brick houses" who condemned the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Campaign.

"It's our kids' blood that made their bricks red," one said.

John Humphries from the St Teresa's Gardens Committee, when questioned about 'the involvement of Sinn Féin', said that they did have local members of Sinn Féin



● 'The people have realised they can achieve things'

on the committee: "It's about time they were given credit for what they've done. Christy Burke's work in the Hardwicke Street area has to be appreciated."

The media's coverage of the campaign was criticised, with the exception of one paper, of which there were a few mentions.

The paper? *An Phoblacht/Republican News*.

The 'of course' was unpleasant.

Brian Hackett, a teacher from a school in the inner city, praised the stand the local people had made, saying:

"The people have realised they have teeth and that they can achieve things. There is a confidence amongst the people and they are beginning to see that there is something they can do about a wide range of issues such as poor housing."

"I think that we have a very interesting year ahead of us."

Terms of embarrassment

BY EDDIE STACK

"AND THE WINNER IS... Gosh, if I could just get the envelope open... Gee, I'm so excited... So many fine performances this year... I'm so honoured to present this award... So exciting isn't it?... I know I can't wait to see who the winner is... If I could just get the envelope open... Yes, it's another Oscar ceremony and there they all are, patting themselves on the back and giving all the silly little statuettes to all the films you didn't see."

There's something fascinatingly awful about Oscar night. It really knocks your faith in human nature to see mankind make such willing berks of themselves just to be seen by the 500 million we kept being told were watching.

Desperately looking for the autouche, the award presenters were introduced to us in pairs of dotting couples. Whatever the skills of the Hollywood plastic care unit, the women nearly always looked as antiseptic as an intensive care unit in a maternity hospital while the men sported the finest teeth money could buy.

Spontaneously chatting the informal dialogue they had spent at least six months rehearsing, the various celebs would then stare like robots into the autouche which fed them their next spontaneous dialogue. If the autouche got stuck so did the stars. I've no doubt that if an autouche printed the words upside down some of the world's most popular actors would stand on their heads.

PALES

Walking away with all the

FILM

film. It is non-intellectual. It is non-political. It is also non-interesting.

As soap opera, *Terms of Endearment* is an exercise in manipulation. Purporting to be a slice of life, it crams in all the factors mankind has in common: love sex, loneliness, old age death, in short nearly everything that pulls on the heart-strings and makes them go zing. But in trying to cram them all in it ends up doing none of them justice, the results are painful to behold.

RELATIONSHIP

The film hangs around the relationship between a mother and her daughter over 30 years. As the daughter grows up, the mother, Aurora, is widowed and allows herself to be chased after by several largely unattractive suitors so that she can at least fool herself that she is a young woman. Her daughter, upon reaching the tender age of 18, marries a very boring young man by the name of Flap (that is not a misprint) much against the wishes of her mother, who boycotts the wedding.

Debra Winger, who plays the daughter, once served in the Israeli army before becoming an actress but she does not use this experience to do the decent thing for a change and shoot Shirley MacLaine with her Uzi.



● Jack Nicholson, playing the over the hill astronaut, has a tete a tete over the fence with over the hill actress Shirley MacLaine

The daughter follows her husband around the minor universities he has to teach in due to his very minor teaching degree but keeps in touch with her adorable mother by phone. As the years fly by, Aurora falls for the over the hill astronaut who lives next door.

This astronaut, played by Jack Nicholson, is an inveterate woman-chaser and makes it quite clear to Aurora that he is primarily after a horizontal relationship. Of course, Aurora is offended, but isn't he a lovable rogue? And, of course, they fall in love, but then he finds himself getting in too deep and, well, then he breaks it off. Meanwhile, Aurora's daughter is having an affair with another man and is not getting on with Flap, who really loves her but can't

show it, and then he has an affair, and then she finds out about it and then she goes back to Mummy, and then... etc, etc, ad infinitum.

STRICKEN

I could recount the plot forever, but let's just skip to the bit where the daughter is stricken with Hollywood's favourite plot-device - The incurable Disease!

Poor old Debra gets a rotten old dose of something awful, and well... her mother makes it up for not coming to her wedding (sob), the astronaut comes back to the mother in her hour of need, and (gasp!) Flap tells her how he really loves her after all (boo hoo), and her children are called to her death-bed for a last farewell (waaaah!) but

they are too young to understand. As the man said, don't let the plot put you off. It's enough to drive you over the edge of a cliff.

The only thing of grace to be salvaged from *Terms of Endearment* is the performance of Jack Nicholson as the astronaut. Jack knows he's in a load of rubbish and has the good manners to let us know it as well. Full marks to the man for allowing himself to be photographed with his waistline well out of his trousers. His lack of vanity in allowing his turn-out to give credibility to the middle-age spread of the astronaut is a rare thing amongst the big egos of the Hollywood jet-set.

It's not often that you go to a film where a man's stomach has the best part.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

The Aud

BY PETER O'ROURKE

FOLLOWING the outbreak of war in Europe in August 1914, the IRB, seeing England's difficulty as Ireland's opportunity, lost no time in preparing for a rising.

Roger Casement travelled to Germany and in November 1914 secured a declaration of armistice with Ireland from the German government. The following month he negotiated an agreement for German aid to liberate Ireland.

On April 9th 1916, the promised

German aid in the form of an arms ship, with a cargo of 20,000 rifles, ten machine guns, ammunition and explosives set sail from Lubeck in Germany.

The ship, named the *Aud* and commanded by Captain Karl Spindler, sailing under a Norwegian flag, carried a camouflage cargo of timber.

It was intended that the *Aud* would rendezvous off Fenit, County Kerry, with a German U-boat carrying Casement and Robert Monteith.

The *Aud* carried no wireless and so was unaware that the date for its arrival off Fenit had been altered by the IRB Military Council from Thursday, April 20th, to Sunday, April 23rd, the date of the proposed rising.

As a result of the alteration, there were no preparations by Austin Stack and the Kerry Volunteers to meet the ship when she reached Tralee Bay at 4.15pm on April 20th. After half an hour's wait, Spindler, seeing no sign of the submarine, steamed into the Bay. When dusk fell, he began flashing a signal towards the shore but, to his consternation, received no reply.

The *Aud*, anchored offshore for nearly 24 hours, attracted the attention of two British patrol boats. The ship moved further out into the Atlantic, but at 9.25am on Saturday, April 22nd, Spindler's luck ran out and the *Aud* was intercepted by a British patrol boat, the *Bluebell*, which gave chase and forced Spindler to make for Cogh (then named Queenstown).

SCUTTLED

Rather than have his cargo fall into British possession, Spindler, unaware of Casement's arrest, gave an order that the ship be scuttled. Dressed in their German naval uniforms, the captain and his crew boarded lifeboats and within minutes an explosion erupted into the air from charges placed in the *Aud*'s hold. Within ten minutes the ship had



● CAPTAIN KARL SPINDLER

gone down and with her too the last hope of a successful rising taking place.

LETTERS

BELL, John, (Portlaoise). Best wishes, son, for a happy Easter. From your loving mother, brothers, sisters and nieces. **CLARA, Dunganon**, and **John**, (Portlaoise). Love and best wishes for a happy Easter. From your loving sister Martina, Robbie, Tina and Christopher, Dunganon. **TINA**, (Portlaoise). Love and best wishes for a happy Easter. From your loving sister Kathleen, Gerry and nephew John; and your sister, Roseleen. **DOHERTY, Martin**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to you both. From Paddy and Brian. **BOYLE, Paddy**, (Portlaoise). Best wishes for your birthday and for wishes. Paddy, Keep smiling. Thinking of you and praying for you always. From your loving mother, brothers, Frank, Bernard and Jim; and Margaret and John, xxx. **BOYLE, Paddy**, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Dad. Love from Frances, Paddy and Katie. **BOYLE, Paddy**, (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings for April 20th, Paddy, and best wishes for a happy Easter. From Maryellen and Maureen, USA; the Maryellen family; Sean and Les; and Eileen, xxx.

AN CUMANN CABHRACH, WALKINSTOWN, DUBLIN, sends Easter greetings and best wishes for the future to all our POWs, especially those incarcerated overseas and Jim Monaghan (Portlaoise). **THE BELLAGH REPUBLICAN WELFARE ASSOCIATION** sends Easter greetings to all Bellaghy POWs in the Republic of Ireland, Magilligan and Crumlin Road. The British allege you are criminals but the only criminals are the British.

THE CARROLL/ASHE SINN FEIN CUMANN, CABRA, DUBLIN, sends republican greetings to our POW comrades in Ireland and abroad. Our day will come, UTP. **COMHAIRLE ÁTHA CLIATH SINN FEIN** sends solidarity greetings to all republican POWs everywhere, especially those from Dublin. "Revolution will victory!"

CAMPBELL, Phillip; McMAHON, Kevin, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. Love and Kevin. As smoochnaidh orlaibh um Chaisc. From Mary Mc. **CAMPBELL, Phil**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. Flair, from Kev, Jackie and Der. **CAMPBELL, Phil**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. Kid. Do your work and keep up the studying. I heard all about it. Sound, God bless. Love from Chrissie, Belfast. **DESY, (Crumlin Road)**. Don't eat too many Easter eggs, Desy. From James the Poet, Jackie, Pearse, Kev and Der. **COOKE, James**, (Portlaoise). Wishing you a very happy birthday, James. Love from Susie. **COOKE, Jimmy**, (Portlaoise). Thinking of you at Easter as always. Love from Fran.

COOKE, Jimmy, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Cooke. From Dóirín — and not forgetting the Wolf. **CORBETT, Gabriel**, (H8). Easter greetings to my brother Gabriel. Don't get sick eating too many eggs. Lots of love from your sister Patricia, brother-in-law, and nieces. Love from Patricia and nephew Joseph.

CORRIGAN, Peter, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. Peter, from Phil, Jonesborough. **CORRIGAN, Shane**, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Shane. From Dad, Mum, Sharon, Gary and Leah. **CORRIGAN, Shane**, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Shane. From Granda, Uncle Paddy and Aunt Marie.

CORRIGAN, Shane, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. Shane, from Tommy and Eileen; Niel and Margaret; Terry and Ann; Winnie and John; Jane and Eileen; and Aunt Leone. **COYLE, Marie**, (Limerick). Easter greetings. Marie, you are older than my friends. From Mountjoy ex-POW Chrissie.

CUMMINGS, Christy & Denis, (H-Block). Easter greetings to you both. From Kieran and Margaret O'Donnell and family. **CUSHINAN, Brian**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. From Mum, Sharon and family. **CUSHINAN, Brian**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. From Frances. **CUSHINAN, Brian**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. From Henry and Claire.

THE JAMES CONNOLLY & ROBERT EMMET SINN FEIN CUMANN, BALLYFERMOT & INCHICORE, DUBLIN, send solidarity greetings to all republican POWs everywhere, especially, Flair, Desy, Kev, Jackie and Der. **CLARA, Liam, Sean and Brian** (Portlaoise). We're all thinking of you. Tiochaidh frí.

THE JAMES CONNOLLY REPUBLICAN FLUTE BAND, GLASGOW, sends revolutionary greetings to all republican POWs held in British, Free State and Crumlin Road prisons. Tiochaidh frí.

THE GOVAN SHAMROCK FLUTE BAND, GLASGOW, sends solidarity greetings for Easter to all Irish republican prisoners.

THE FRANCIS HUGHES SINN FEIN CUMANN, DUBLIN, sends solidarity greetings to all our POW comrades in English jails. **THE JENKINSON/MORAN SINN FEIN CUMANN, DUN LAOGHAIRE**, sends solidarity greetings to Geraldine Crawford, Vincent, and Hackett, James Monaghan and all the republican POWs at home and abroad.

THE COLM KEENAN SINN FEIN CUMANN, DUBLIN, sends solidarity greetings to all republican POWs, especially Brendan and Kevin. **THE MCANN/GRANT SINN FEIN CUMANN** sends Easter greetings to Liam McKee, Fintan Scullion, James McEneaney and all the republican POWs.

McCOY and Brian Cushman (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to you both. From your loving mother, Mary, and all the lads in Portlaoise. From the Bell family, Dunganon.

THE THOMAS/MURPHY SINN FEIN CUMANN, GREENLOUGH, sends Easter greetings to Dolores (Armagh) and best wishes for next one spent in (Long Kesh) and Hugh Francis (Magilligan). Love from all the republicans. Greetings also to all republican POWs incarcerated in Ireland and abroad.

DOHERTY, Martin, (Portlaoise). A happy Easter. From Mum, Dad and all the family. **DOHERTY, Martin**, (Portlaoise). A happy Easter. From Kev, Jackie and Der. **DOHERTY, Martin**, (Portlaoise). A happy Easter. From Kev, Jackie and Der.

DOUGAN, Harry, (Parkhurst). Easter greetings to you and your comrades incarcerated in English jails. From Cameron, Mary, Sinead and Damien.

DUGGAN, Harry, (Portlaoise). Best wishes for a happy Easter. From your loving mother, brothers, sisters and nieces. **FINLAYSON, Seamus**, (H7). Happy Easter to you and all your comrades. Seamus. From Mother and all the family.

FITZGERALD, Gerry, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Fitz. No sponsors to say. Glück! From Mical and Sean.

FLYNN, Joey, (Portlaoise). Love from Michael, Róisín, Brenda and Sean.

FLYNN, Joey, (Portlaoise). Love from Michael, Róisín, Brenda and Sean.

FOX, Michael, (Portlaoise). Preflaoi fíle. Leile nio vivir siemera ardo. **FOX, Michael**, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. Michael. From Veronica, New York.

FUSCO, Angelo, (Portlaoise). Greetings to Angelo & Co. From John, Gail and family.

GALEAGHER, Tommy, (McGURK, Aldan). (Portlaoise). Best wishes, lads. From the Corrigan family. **GALEAGHER, Tommy**, (McGURK, Aldan). (Portlaoise). Best wishes, lads. From the Corrigan family.

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Loyalist bomb murder

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A 52-YEAR-OLD nationalist woman from the mixed University Street area of Belfast was killed instantly last Thursday, April 12th, when a loyalist bomb exploded outside her home.

An RUC man was also killed while he was inspecting a holdall containing the explosives.

Mrs Margaret Whyte — a mother of eight children — became suspicious of the holdall when she returned home shortly after 2am and summoned the RUC in Donegall Pass Barracks.

She had already substantial grounds for her suspicion following past experience last April when the family became the target of another sectarian explosion.

On that occasion a 25-year-old loyalist called David Maitland, who had been transport-

ing the bomb when it exploded, lost a leg. When he admitted his involvement, in Crumlin Road Court earlier this year, he was given a token recorded seven-year sentence.

URGED

Although Isadore Whyte urged his wife to leave the area after the sectarian attack, she refused to go, declaring that she would not be intimidated out of her home by anyone. In Thursday's explosion, two RUC men and two of Mrs Whyte's sons who were sleeping when the bomb went off were taken to hospital suffering from shock but were later released.



● The University Street, Belfast, home where Margaret Whyte (inset) was killed by loyalists

Turf Lodge assault

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A MYSTERY attack on a nationalist woman in the Turf Lodge area of West Belfast, in the early hours of last Friday morning, is thought locally to have been an attempted kidnapping by a loyalist gang.

Emma Bradley, from Norglen Crescent, was walking home through Ardmonagh Gardens when she noticed a man waving to her at the corner of Norglen Grove. Only a few months ago

a woman was raped close by, and with this in the forefront of her mind, Mrs Bradley ignored the man and hurried on her way. She recalls:

"He began to act as if he was

drunk, then he reached out and grabbed me. We both fell down onto the road and he held me down. I was screaming."

As Mrs Bradley struggled with her attacker, who was wearing a snorkel jacket with the hood pulled up, a red car approached containing three other men. She continues:

"A man in the back tried to pull me into the car but luckily the door jammed up

against the wall. I ran for my life."

A green car which may also have been used by the abductors trailed Mrs Bradley to her home as did the red car. Mrs Bradley says:

"I just managed to get into the house where I collapsed onto the chair. I was really frightened, none of them said anything, they were just out to get anybody."



● EMMA BRADLEY

RECRUITMENT FAILS

AN ATTEMPT by the RUC to coerce a South Derry man into supplying them with information on republicans in the Maghera area failed when the man refused to be intimidated by blackmail threats and he informed Sinn Féin of the RUC's actions.

William McLaughlin's ordeal began on March 26th when RUC men called to his Maghera home and gave him an ultimatum to go to the local barracks that night. When he did, he was arrested and questioned by an

RUC detective who gave him the name as 'McConnell'. He told McLaughlin that he had information that he was joining the INLA and had evidence to connect him with a hijacking and other related incidents. He en-

couraged McLaughlin, who was flabbergasted by these suggestions, to join the INLA and work for the RUC, supplying them with information on operations. They were especially interested in information about attacks on UDR personnel for which the RUC would, they said, pay £200.

Although McLaughlin adamantly refused to co-operate, the RUC man told him he would contact him by telephone on

April 16th at a neighbour's house, using the alias of Sean or Brendan. The RUC also told him that in the event of being questioned about his arrest he was to inform people that it was in connection with thefts in the area.

However, in their zeal to recruit nationalists by any means, the RUC contacted McLaughlin on Monday, April 9th, a week earlier than the pre-arranged

date. On the second occasion, McLaughlin's mother, who was aware of her son's situation from the beginning, answered the call and asked the RUC man for his name which he gave as 'Sean O'Neill' but slammed the phone down when she asked for a telephone number for William to ring.

To date, no further approaches have been made to McLaughlin by the RUC, but South Derry Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair urges people who could find themselves in similar circumstances not to be intimidated by the RUC and to contact Sinn Féin immediately upon their release.

Ballymena bribe offer

A SINN FEIN member, arrested in Ballymena, County Antrim, was offered large sums of money to become a paid perjurer and threatened with death when he refused.

Sean Phillips, aged 32, was offered £70,000 and re-location in a country of his choice if he would become a paid perjurer, but he was also threatened that he could "be in and out of Castlereagh like a yo-yo" and would "end up like Henry Hogan" (the IRA Volunteer shot dead in Dunloy in February) if he continued his Sinn Féin activities.

Sean Phillips, his 21-year-old nephew John Scullion, and a second Sinn Féin

member, Cormac McDermott, were arrested in an early morning swoop by the RUC on Ballymena's Dunclogh Estate on Monday, April 9th.

Scullion was questioned about the Sinn Féin activities of his uncle and was released on Tuesday, April 10th.

PLANS

The two Sinn Féin members were interrogated almost exclusively about

Sinn Féin EEC election plans for the Ballymena area and were eventually released on Wednesday, April 11th.

Commenting on the arrests, North Antrim Sinn Féin constituency representative Pearse McMahon said:

"These arrests are indicative of the RUC policy of harassment of Sinn Féin election workers and will leave North Antrim nationalists in no doubt that Sinn Féin's policies are recognised to be the only realistic alternative to the upholders of this artificial sectarian state."



● PEARSE MCMAHON